

## Growth mindset ways to challenge, praise, and encourage students

### When students succeed with little effort

- “Wow, you got another A on that test without even studying? I’m sorry that I may have wasted your time with things that are too easy for you. Let’s think of something you can do that will give you more of a challenge.”
- “You always do so well on your \_\_\_\_\_. What do you do to prepare or to succeed? Would you share your strategies with the class?”
- “Addition and subtraction seem to come easily to you! What do you think you might do if you are taught a skill that you are confused about?”

### When students succeed as a result of effort

- “I am so proud of the effort you put forth in order to improve your grade..(make the team, remain on task, complete your homework 3 days in a row).”
- “You really put your mind to it. I guess the struggle was worth it!”
- “It was great to watch you work so hard to accomplish this.”
- “Going to extra help every day really paid off. It mustn’t have been easy to get up early every morning, the effort was obviously worth it.”
- “You really accepted our suggestions for studying, managing your time (behavior, etc). You must feel very good about your accomplishment.”

### When students face disappointment or failure

- “OK, so you didn’t do as well as you wanted to. Let’s look at this as an opportunity to learn.
- What parts did you do well in? What parts were difficult for you?”
- “Let’s look at the difficult parts. What (specifically) can you do next time to improve?”
- “What did you do to prepare for this? Is there anything that you could have done differently?”
- “Do you know anyone who does well in this area? Maybe we can find out what strategies they use to achieve this task.”
- “How can I help you to do this?”